

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER Mining Section

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December 20, 2019

Christopher Wallace Environmental Manager Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company PO Box 32199 Juneau, AK 99803-2199

Subject: Extension of the Hecla Greens Creek Mine Reclamation Plan Approval (J20142682.2)

Dear Mr. Wallace:

The Division of Mining, Land, & Water (DMLW) issued a Reclamation Plan Approval (RPA) for Hecla Greens Creek Mine for the five-year period from August 11, 2014 through August 10, 2019 (RPA J20142682). The RPA was corrected and reissued in a letter dated August 14, 2014 and then later amended in a letter dated December 7, 2016 (RPA J20142682.2). The bond was increased due to mass balance exchange in a letter from Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company (HGCMC) dated July 13, 2018. The RPA J20142682.2 was then extended in a letter dated August 5, 2019 through December 31, 2019, to allow for completion of agency review and public process associated with the April 10, 2019 submittal.

Under Alaska Administrative Code 11 AAC 97.320, the commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources may approve a reclamation plan for any term not to exceed 10 years. Since HGCMC submitted an application to renew the RPA in a timely manner and because the original term of the RPA was for only five years, DMLW hereby extends the RPA J20142682.2 through June 30, 2020, to allow for completion of the public process associated with this April 10, 2019 submittal.

A person affected by this decision may appeal it, in accordance with 11 AAC 02. Any appeal must be received within 20 calendar days after the date of issuance of this decision, as defined in 11 AAC 02.040(c) and (d), and may be mailed or delivered to the Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1400, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501, faxed to 907-269-8918, or sent by electronic mail to dnr.appeals@alaska.gov. This decision takes effect immediately. If no appeal is filed by the appeal deadline, this decision becomes a final administrative order and decision of the department on the 31st day after issuance. An eligible person must first appeal this decision in accordance with 11 AAC 02 before appealing this decision to superior court. A copy of 11 AAC 02 may be obtained from any regional information office of the Department of Natural Resources.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Brent Martellaro at 907-451-2788.

Sincerely,

Steve Buckley

Mining Section Chief

cc via email: Matthew Brody, USACE

Steve Buckley, ADNR Charlie Cobb, ADNR Carolyn Curley, ADNR William Groom, ADNR Kate Kanouse, ADF&G Brent Martellaro, ADNR Kyle Moselle, ADNR Allan Nakanishi, ADEC Tim Pilon, ADEC

Matthew Reece, USFS Mike Walton, ADNR